

REQUIRED SIGNAGE

POOL

- "Warning no lifeguard on duty" - 4 inch letters
- "No Diving" letters and international symbol – 4 inch letters
- "Children should not use pool without adult supervision" – 2 inch letters
- "In case of Emergency Dial 911" – 1 inch letters

SPA

- "Children should not use spa without adult supervision" – 2 inch letters
- "Do not use spa if water temperature exceeds 104°F" - 1 inch letters
- Letters Post maximum spa bather load
- Label "Emergency Shutoff Switch"

PIWF (Splash Pad)

- "Non-Service animals prohibited"
- "Changing diapers within 6 feet of the water feature is prohibited"
- "Use of the water feature if ill with a contagious disease is prohibited"
- "Do not drink water from the water feature"
- "Use of the water feature when ill with diarrhea is prohibited"
- Contact name and number if no on-site owner or operator

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HEALTH**
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USEFUL INFORMATION

POOL PROGRAM INFORMATION

This document should be used as a reminder and not a sole source of information. Items included in this brochure are a few of the requirements that Chapter 43 of the City Code of Ordinances require.

In January 2011 the City adopted standards found in the Virginia Graeme Baker Act; Chapter 757 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and Subchapters L and M of Chapter 265 of Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code.

FACTS from CDC

CDC shows from 2005-2014, there were an average of 3,536 fatal unintentional drownings (non-boating related) annually in the United States — about ten deaths per day.

About one in five people who die from drowning are children 14 and younger.

For every child who dies from drowning, another five receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries.

THANK YOU

The Houston Health Department would like to thank you for your compliance. To find more information regarding Aquatic Facility Inspection requirements, visit www.HoustonConsumer.org

CONTACT US

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HOUSTON HEALTH
DEPARTMENT



CONSUMER HEALTH SERVICES

Aquatic Facility

Inspection Requirements

Swimming Pools

Spa

Splash Pad

Contact Us
Houston Health Department
8000 North Stadium Drive
Houston, TX 77054
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HoustonConsumer.org

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING AN AQUATIC FACILITY INSPECTION?

INSPECTIONS

Safety

- 12 foot nonconductive safety pole with shepherd's hook
- Thermometer for spa users
- Chemical levels (pH, chlorine/bromine)
- USCG approved ring buoy with throwing rope
- Emergency summoning device (phone, call box – cannot be answered by an on-site office)
- Enclosure must be at least 48 inches tall (HOA, Apartments, Condominiums, and Town-homes)
- Enclosure must be at least 6 feet tall. (competition pools, schools, park pool etc.)
- No Gaps larger than 4 inches between fence pickets and between the ground and the bottom of the fence.
- No climbing hazards outside or around the pool enclosure.

Administrative Requirements

- Valid operating permit must be onsite and posted
- VGBA compliance documents indicating date of installation and life span of the approved drain cover
- Verify current ownership information, contact information and mailing address



Reasons for Closing a Pool

Closure will result in a reinspection

- Enclosure (fence) height
- Gaps greater than four inches
- Gates and doors not self-closing/self-latching
- No enclosure (fence)
- Chemical levels out of range
- Drain covers missing
- No safety vacuum release system (if required)
- Drain covers not VGB compliant
- Issues with filtration equipment
- Equalizer covers missing/not VGB compliant
- Water is cloudy/drain covers not clearly visible
- No Permit

- More than 60% of drownings of 0–4 year-olds occur in pools
- Swimming is the fourth most popular recreational activity in the United States
- Houston has over 3,700 commercial pools - ALL require an annual inspection or more frequent if violations are present.
- If a facility requires a re-inspection, there is a re-inspection fee.



POOL SCHOOL

- The Houston Health Department offers a free training regarding Aquatic Facility inspection requirements.
- Ideal attendees include pool operators, maintenance staff, office staff, and people responsible for maintaining the aquatic facility.
- No Cost

Contact CHS@houston.tx.gov or
(832) 393-5100 for more information